



Today's playbook provided by Fair Grounds racing analyst Joe Kristufek, who has an extensive background in the horse racing industry as a handicapper, on-air talent, producer and fan development specialist. He is well recognized for his creative analysis and wagering tactics and he loves interacting with racing fans. **Follow on Twitter @JoeyDaKRacing**

Selections are ranked on an ABC scale from A – top selections, B – tough to toss, and C – use in multi-race wager spreads & minors in intra-race wagers and are subject to change due to track conditions and scratches. Tune into the paddock show for the most up-to-date information. Check program numbers for accuracy.

Joe's 23-24 Top Pick Season Stats thru March 16, 2024

Races	Wins	2 nd	3 rd	Win%	WPS%
469	121	100	79	25.8%	64%

Wednesday, March 20, 2024

	Race Feel	A	B	C
Race 1 – 50-cent PK 5 (15%)	Tough to separate top 3 – rooting for 7 or 1 vs. chalk 6 who is the one to beat	6, 7, 1		5
Race 2 – 50-cent PK 4	4 squarely the one to beat but 6 drops for a hot barn with blinks on	4, 6	5	8, 7
Race 3 – \$1 PK6 (15%) Carryover =	Sleeper 6 is a key horse in the sequence; 7 the one to beat with rails way out	6, 7	4	2, 8
Race 4 – 50-cent PK 5 (15%)	5 squarely the one to beat, but she doesn't like to win; B's for safety	5	2, 1, 3	
Race 5 – 50-cent PK 4	9 invades with purpose for Ward; B's also look solid in this spot	9	6, 5, 3	7, 4, 1
Race 6 – 50-cent PK 3	2 owns a class edge & a tactical advantage; if lone A doesn't win, anyone can	2	9, 8	10, 3, 4, 11
Race 7	Separation from A to B to C, but this race does have recipe for chaos	8, 7, 1	2, 6, 12	3, 4, 5

Race 8	Not much separation between A & B, but confident one of those win	10, 6	4, 1	5
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Yesterday's Results: CBAABBAAB

Most Likely Winner: Race 6 -- #2 Cash Fever – Has held his own with allowance company and now drops in for a similar price to what he was purchased for with a seemingly tactical, front end advantage.

Best Bet: Race 5 -- #9 Imaboutago – Wesley Ward is a wizard with turf sprinters and he hasn't run a horse the entire Fair Grounds meet. Ward does have a connection to jockey Jareth Loveberry through his agent Steve "The Architect" Leving, so chances are this first out winner is a live wire.

Longshot: Race 3 -- #6 Crew Dragon – This 6-year-old gelding ran some big races on turf earlier in his career, and a very slow break from the gate cost him a fair shot in his lone try here at Fair Grounds He ran huge off the grass sprinting two back but wilted in a two-turn sloppy track race last out. The signals are mixed but promising, and the price should be right.

Favorite Against: Race 7 -- #1 Night Out – I'm not really "against" any favorites today, including this guy, but since I picked him 3rd in the race, I guess he qualifies.

